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ture ; but it cannot impose upon them, at the dictation of any party or section, regulations or institutions uncongenial with their climate, social organization, or permanent interests. Slavery is strictly a local institution, with its conditions climatic, industrial, and social. Where these conditions exist in a Territory, Congress is bound to respect the implied compact of the Constitution, and the legitimate wishes and expectations of actual settlers. But where these conditions do not exist, the same implied contract guarantees to settlers the state of society, industry, and internal police which can exist only in connection with universal freedom, and which is frustrated and negated by the presence of slavery. These principles, involved in the Ordinance of 1787, and recognized in the Missouri Compromise, were first denied when that Compromise was abrogated ; and to this last-named epoch and transaction our author traces the sectional hostility and warfare which have given tone to the political discussions and transactions of the last few years, have led to the outrages in Kansas and the atrocious crimes recently perpetrated in Virginia, and still convulse the Union and embitter the opposing parties in its national councils. The discussion is able, earnest, bold, sustained by undoubted facts and what seems to us impregnable reasoning ; and the author fully vindicates his claim to be regarded as non-sectional in his sympathies, and a defender of our national Constitution and Union in conformity with the intent of the founders of the Constitution and the original parties to the Union.

26. — *Hits at American Whims and Hints for Home Use.* By FREDERIC W. SAWYER, Author of "A Plea for Amusements." Boston : Walker, Wise, & Co. 1860. 12mo. pp. 275.

THIS volume is a series of essays on society, law, books, amusements, philanthropy, and religion,—most of them prose satires on popular fashions, delusions, fallacies, and follies. Without keen wit, they abound in genial humor, and still more in sober *common* sense,—sense we should say, were not many of the topics those on which the *common* sense is *non-sense*. The author's castigations are inflicted not in the spirit of determined fault-finding, nor in that of cynical misanthropy ; but what we most of all like in the book is the tone of healthy and kindly feeling which pervades it. Its "hits" are at fair marks, and its "hints" are such as it would be well for society to take. It must do good, if the conventionalisms at which it aims are not too deeply seated to be displaced.